

Remarks

Claims 17-20 are presently pending. By the instant amendment, claim 17 has been cancelled and new claims 21-24 have been added. Claims 18-20 have been amended to depend from new claim 21. Following entry of this amendment, claims 18-24 are pending.

Original claims 17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Chirila et al. Independent claim 17 has been replaced by new independent claim 21 which is not anticipated by Chirila et al. Particularly, claim 21 requires a mold assembly for molding an intraocular lens having an optic and at least one haptic, the mold assembly including a female base mold having a center cavity for forming the IOL optic, at least one junction cavity and haptic cavity, all in fluid communication, a center male mold having a molding surface for aligning with the center cavity to form the surfaces of the optic, and at least one haptic mold having a mold surface for aligning with the at least one haptic cavity for molding the IOL haptic(s), with the IOL being molded by first curing mold material between the center cavity and male center mold surface, and subsequently curing another mold material, different from the first mold material between the haptic cavities and haptic mold surfaces. Chirila et al. does not disclose a mold assembly having these features. Chirila et al. has a mold assembly for making a corneal prosthesis where the mold assembly first molds the peripheral ring thereof using a first plunger 35 for displacing mold material and forming the center opening of the peripheral ring. Note the absence of any mold surface for forming an optic of an IOL. Following formation of the peripheral ring, the first plunger 35 is removed (Fig. 3 thereof) and a second plunger 41 is inserted (Fig. 4 thereof) to form the central portion of the prosthesis. The mold assembly of Chirila et al. thus requires two separate plungers to form the prosthesis which cannot be said to correspond or teach a center male mold having a molding surface which aligns with the center cavity of the female mold to form the IOL optic, with the haptic(s) being subsequently formed between the haptic cavities of the female mold and the haptic mold surfaces, respectively. All remaining claims ultimately depend from claim 21 and should therefore also be allowable for the reasons set forth above, and separate argument is therefore not deemed necessary.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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